Wal-Mart

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the area," store manager Mike Scott said. "We look forward to making an even greater impact in the future."

Through Wal-Mart's program, financial and volunteer support, which is set by store associates at the local level, the company has been able to channel all of the money raised into local communities.

During grand opening week, the special activities at the new Supercenter will include community band members playing the national anthem, Boy Scout Troop No. 140 raising the flag, and numerous costume appearances.

Wal-Mart officials said the old Wal-Mart simply outgrew its available space. The new Supercenter will be about 145,000-square feet larger than the old store, which was built in 1976.

The store's main entrance will be located on Daniel McCall Drive. Customers will also be able to enter the new store's parking lot via the access road that runs parallel to South First Street behind the Super 8 hotel, Taco Bell and the Outback Steakhouse.

As the grand opening date has approached, Wal-Mart associates have been moving merchandise over from the old store. When the relocation is complete, Wal-Mart is expected to either sell or lease the existing building at 2215 S. First St.

Wal-Mart purchased the large tract of land for its new Supercenter from Outback Steakhouse Corp. in November 2000, and construction of Lufkin's new Wal-Mart started in fall 2001.

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